

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	08/962,271
Filing Date	October 31, 1997
First Named Inventor	Gary A. Freeman et al.
Group Art Unit	3728
Examiner Name	J. Foster
Attorney Docket Number	04644-068001

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other _____2. **Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____3. **Fee** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1050i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 355 enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	G. Roger Lee	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,963
Signature	<i>G. Roger Lee</i>	Date	July 2, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSIONI hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to **Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231** or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: July 2, 2001

Name (Print/Type)	Maureen Christiano
Signature	<i>Maureen Christiano</i>
Date	July 2, 2001